

What Hospitals and Physicians Should Know About Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS)

What Is EDRS?

The primary purpose of an EDRS is to enable the participants of death registration to file death records with local and state registrars electronically. EDRS provides for on-line access so that decedent fact-of-death and cause-of-death information can be registered electronically by multiple death registration participants working on the same case. With an EDRS the ability to report cause-of-death with increased accuracy and timeliness can be an integral part of patient care and will also improve cause-of-death data for disease surveillance systems.

EDRS Potential Benefits

- Provides for paperless filing of a death record
- Facilitates on-line collaboration among multiple death registration system users, including funeral homes, hospitals, physicians, medical examiners and local and state registrars
- Supports the completion and filing of a death record that is partially an electronic record and partially a paper certificate if all participants are not on-line
- Improves the timeliness and quality of cause-of-death reporting
- Saves time and effort by enabling death certificate completion electronically
- Reduces rejection of death certificates
- Promotes uniformity in cause-of-death statistics
- Provides for electronic submission of supplemental cause-of-death information for pending investigations by the medical examiner
- Enables faster death registration at the Division of Vital Records office, which will speed turnaround time for obtaining certified copies for families

EDRS FEATURES

- User-friendly death record data entry screens
- Highly secure and Internet-accessible
- Available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week; except for prior scheduled system maintenance and unexpected interruptions of service
- Accommodates hospitals, private physician practices and medical examiners
- On-line help and instructions built into the system
- Help desk support during normal business hours

REQUIREMENTS TO USE EDRS

- A Personal Computer (PC) with a Windows based operating system. Macintosh (Apple) operating systems are not currently supported.
- Internet Explorer (IE) 6.0 through 10.0 as your web browser. Internet Explorer (IE) 11 is supported in Compatibility View Mode.
- Adobe Acrobat Reader. Download link - <http://get.adobe.com/reader/> - free of charge.
- A printer. A laser printer is recommended.

For information on using EDRS, please visit http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/Vital_Records/edrs